

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION AT DAYTON**

PAMELA BLAIR,	:	Case No. 3:16-cv-140
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	District Judge Walter H. Rice
	:	Magistrate Judge Sharon L. Ovington
vs.	:	
	:	
NANCY A. BERRYHILL,	:	
COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL	:	
SECURITY,	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	

DECISION AND ENTRY

This case is before the Court on the parties' Stipulation to Award EAJA Fees. (Doc. #15). Specifically, the parties stipulate to an award of attorney fees in the sum of \$3,600.00 in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims Plaintiff may have in this matter pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412, in the above case. The award of attorney fees will fully satisfy any and all of Plaintiff's claims for fees, costs, and expenses under the EAJA, that may be payable for counsel's work before the Court in this case. Any fees paid belong to Plaintiff and not her attorney and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debt that the litigant owes the United States under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586, 593-96; 130 S.Ct. 2521, 2526-528 (2010). Plaintiff and Defendant move that the Court award Plaintiff EAJA fees and expenses in the amount of \$3,600.00.

After the Court enters this award, if counsel for the parties can verify that Plaintiff owes no pre-existing debt subject to offset, Defendant agrees to direct that the

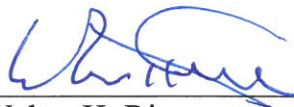
award be made payable to Plaintiff's attorney pursuant to the EAJA assignment duly signed by Plaintiff and counsel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Parties' Stipulation to Award EAJA Fees (Doc. #15) is accepted and the Commissioner shall pay Plaintiff's attorney fees, costs, and expenses in the total amount of \$3,600.00;
2. Counsel for the parties shall verify, **within thirty days of this Decision and Entry**, whether or not Plaintiff owes a pre-existing debt to the United States subject to offset. If no such pre-existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff and counsel; and
3. The case remains terminated on the docket of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 3-22-17



Walter H. Rice
United States District Judge